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"Not by might, nor by power, but by my spirit . . ."

METHODIST Peace Courier

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NEW YEAR--A TIME FOR RESOLUTION AND ACTION

New Year's resolutions should be related o action. Nations which have resolved to achieve world peace need to continuously build he conditions which make for world peace. hese are personal, economic, social, political, nternational - perhaps others. It is important for us to hold steadily without divergence o the central core: the will to peace -- the ecision and determination to maintain goodwill, stablish mutual confidence and patiently labor or the peaceful solution of every problem between nations -- alternatives to armed conflict. his requires ingenuity and originality in finding peaceful solutions -- peaceful modus vivendi.

The Board of World Peace, December 11-14th, 955, in New York, again re-affirmed its conviction that war is not inevitable; reviewed the oral and spiritual conditions of peace; the lace which the relation of suffering and the eeting of human need holds in peaceful international relations; and, adopted specific resolutions with respect to support of the United Nations and international cooperation. The Board supported universal disarmament through he United Nations; voted opposition to universal ilitary training and to church college R.O.T.C. nits; and took other steps deemed essential to he advancement of peace. It adhered to basic ositions adopted by the Board and the General Conference on such matters as Soviet-United States relations, colonial and dependent peoples, technical assistance and civil liberties, etc. Its actions on such subjects will go to he General Conference in the form of a memorial. In addition to the foregoing, it adopted certain positions with respect to our immigration law, and regulations concerning conscientious objectors.

Since action should accompany resolution, we suggest that Methodists throughout the country continue to: (1) support policies looking toward increased relaxation between the East and West; (2) patiently pursue courses which make for international understanding between peoples; (3) give witness to the ecumenical fellowship which transcends artificially created personal barriers and those of economic systems, political orders or governments. This witness holds that the reality of God and the spirit of Christ are, in all of their implications, for all peoples, irrespective of language, nationality, race, sex, color or class. Specifically, we are suggesting below some immediate actions which the reader can take and can help to promote in his local church and community.

Specific Resolutions and Proposed Actions

Early January is a good time to inform your senators and members of the House of Representatives at Washington of your views on: (1) a strong foreign policy directed at winning the minds of people by seeking their economic welfare, their freedom and independence and their full participation in the United Nations. It is important that we immediately write President Eisenhower in support of a high level program of technical assistance and economic aid to underdeveloped areas in Asia, Africa, Latin America, and the Middle East. (2) We should inform our government of our support of bold and far-reaching proposals for relaxing tensions and widening the areas of international understanding. (3) We recommend support of the proposals of the President and His Special Assistant, Mr. Stassen, in pressing vigorously for acceptance of agreed-upon plans of aerial inspection and other forms of auditing and control which would enable the nations, and especially the Soviet Union and the United States, to disarm to a point which would remove the fear and threat of aggressive warfare and increasingly embody the modus vivendi of lasting peace. (4) The members of Congress, as well as the President, will be receptive to your views on universal military training. The Board of World Peace did not act in opposition to Selective Service; it, like our General Conferences and the Council of Bishops, is still opposed to the establishment of universal military training as a national system. (5) If we really believe, we can inform the President and Secretary of State that our prayers are with them in their endeavors to formulate and win acceptance of policies which make for peace.

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Mr. Herman Will, Jr., administrative secy.

ADOPTED BY THE BOARD OF WORLD PEACE

Universal Disarmament

"Believing that security cannot be achieved by the amassing of armaments nor by the development of ever more terrible weapons of mass destruction, we seek firmer grounds of security in mutual understanding, international cooperation, and the use of our economic resources for better living standards throughout the world. We are encouraged by the persistence of world political leaders in their search for agreement on a plan for an effective system of universal disarmament in and through the Disarmament Commission of the United Nations. We are further heartened by the apparent willingness of the nations to pursue more flexible policies and to make occasional concessions in the interest of furthering agreement on a disarmament program.

"We note with interest the proposal of the President of the United States for a system of thorough international aerial inspection of the nations in order to avert the possibility of any large-scale surprise attack and to establish a greater sense of confidence among the great powers. We also note with satisfaction the Russian proposal to station inspection teams at strategic points to guard against the accumulation of weapons for aggressive purposes. We approve of these proposals, but warn against the possibility of allowing them to become a substitute for universal disarmament.

"We call upon Methodists everywhere to keep informed on developments in this field and to let their representatives in government know of their determination that a solution must be found to the continuing arms race. The lifting of the staggering financial burden of armaments from the nations of the world will free great resources needed urgently in the economic development of large areas and for the achievement of a decent standard of life for more than half the world's people."

Universal Military Training

"The General Conference and several church-wide organizations of The Methodist Church, including the Council of Bishops, repeatedly have declared their opposition to any system of peacetime universal military training. We reaffirm this stand and warn Methodists of the danger of further legislation which may seek to force an increasing number of young men into some form of military training or service. The extension of military control over more men for a period of several years poses a serious threat to democracy and to the civilian character of national life. We appeal to the United States to give bold leadership looking toward the universal abolition of peacetime conscription by or through the United Nations."

Technical Assistance and Economic Aid

"We reaffirm our support of programs of assistance to the underdeveloped nations of the world. They have value, whether they are bilateral or multilateral, but they have most worth when they are administered by the United Nations.

"We recommend therefore that there be no diminution but increases in our contributions to WHO, FAO, UNICEF, UNESCO, and the Technical Assistance Program of the U.N. We look with favor upon SUNFED which has the approval of so many underdeveloped countries and urge our government to begin to support it immediately, even before universal disarmament is achieved."

PEACE BOARD HOLDS ANNUAL MEETING IN NEW YORK

The Board of World Peace held its Annual Meeting in New York, with the Executive Committe meeting the night of December 11th, and the full Board from Monday morning of the 12th until noon of the 14th. Special features accompanied the regular business sessions. Included were items such as the following, interspersed through the program of the three days: Sessions in United Nations Conference Rooms, where the following persons addressed the Board and met pertinent questions: Dr. Charles Hogan, from the Secretariat of the Non-Governmental Organization Section of the U.N.; Mr. William B. Hesmondhalgh, First Secretary and Information Officer, United Kingdom Delegation at the U.N.; Mrs. Else Linda Lindt, Assistant Information Officer, UNICEF (United Nations Children's Fund); Mr. Richard Pederson, Adviser in Economic and Social Affairs, United States Mission to the U.N.

Dr. Walter W. Van Kirk, Executive Director of the Department of International Affairs of the National Council of Churches, addressed the Board, as did also Dr. Clark M. Eichelberger Executive Director of the American Association for the United Nations.

On the closing day, immediately following adjournment, the members of the Board, by invitation, attended a session for the leaders of Non-Governmental Organizations, held in the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace Building (across from the United Nations) and heard the Honorable Harold E. Stassen, Assistant to the President, discuss current proposals for, and progress in the field of international disarmament, as seen from the White House. A question period followed.

(Copies of the Actions adopted by the Board will be available later and of course, will be forwarded as Memorials to the General Conference.

IN RETROSPECT

Looking backward over the last few decades, we conclude that if all the editorials, articles, newsbeat reports, and illustrations that have been printed in the Christian Advocate dealing with the theme of world peace and international relations were assembled, they would compose a very large and thick volume. It goes without saying that the deep interest of the editors and the very generous allotment of space to the field of world peace constitutes a significant service. So, to the Editor and his staff, we hail your good works and thank you in the name of the Prince of Peace.

WORLD COUNCIL AND C.O.S.

The Annual Meeting of the Board of World Peace authorized the submission of a memorial to General Conference embodying thirteen principles regarding the rights of conscientious objectors which were formulated by the Central Committee of the World Council of Churches. An effort is being made to have as many as possible of the constituent communions of the World Council approve these principles so that they can be used in an effort to widen the recognition of the rights of conscientious objectors especially in countries where persons taking this position now have no alternative but imprisonment for long periods of time.

TOOLS FOR ACTION

Register Christian Opinion! A valuable congressional directory and guide to legislative action. 10¢ each, 50¢ per 12, $3.50 per 100.

Technical Assistance in Brief. Programs of United Nations and Specialized Agencies -- What They Are, What They Are Not, How They Work, What They Do. 1954. 5¢ each.

No Islands Any More. A handy, informative guide to Atoms for Peace, Disarmament, Refugees, World Trade and Economic Development, 1955. 15¢ each.

Helping Economic Development in Asia and the Far East. A United Nations publication, 1955. 15¢ each.

Order from the Board of World Peace, 740 Rush Street, Chicago 11, Illinois.

Mountain View, Arkansas
November 12, 1955

'My dear Dr. Boss:

'It was indeed a pleasure to be with you during our recent U.N. Seminar in New York City October 17 to 20. It certainly was a broadening and deepening experience for me. It gave me insights into world problems and from now on I shall be thinking with greater understanding and appreciation for the fine work that you and your staff are doing. May I again express my appreciation for your excellent contribution to the program in New York City and I hope that our paths will cross again from time to time in the great program of World Peace."

Sincerely yours,
H. W. Jinske
Pastor, Methodist Church

OHIO AREA U.N. SEMINAR

Ohio Area's successful United Nations Seminar, New York, December 5-8, was led by Dr. J. Otis Young, Administrative Assistant to Bishop Hazen G. Werner (who was on the foreign field), who conducted the opening worship service; Dr. Theodore Mayer, Superintendent of the Steubenville District, North-East Ohio Conference, and Dr. R. E. Scully of the Ohio Conference. Seventy-three persons, including the Executive Secretary of the general Board of World Peace, met beginning Monday evening, to the middle of Thursday afternoon, at the United Nations in New York. Devotional services were held in the morning at the headquarters hotel, the Beekman Tower. This seminar was planned similarly to the Pittsburgh Seminar held last February for four days under the general direction of Bishop Lloyd C. Wicke. The impact upon those who attended was such that the effects should be felt throughout the Ohio Area. We were fortunate in the choice of speakers and discussion leaders. The seminar began with a general orientation and discussion of the United Nations as an international body, expressing in part what man hopes to achieve on this earth. The following speakers participated, using the themes which are described:

THE UN AND THE ACHIEVEMENT OF PEACE
Dr. Charles F. Boss, Jr.

THE UNITED STATES POLICY IN THE UNITED NATIONS
Congressman Brooks Hays

THE U.N. TRUSTEESHIP COUNCIL AND ITS PROGRAM
Mr. George W. Townsend

THE U.N. PROGRAM OF TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE
Mr. Duckworth Barker

UNICEF - UNITED NATIONS CHILDREN'S FUND
Mrs. Else Linda Lindt, Assistant to Information Officer, UNICEF

RUSSIA AND THE SITUATION BACK OF THE "BARRIER"
Dr. Charles F. Boss, Jr.

THE SITUATION IN KOREA
Mr. Yung Kyoo Kang, Secretary of the Embassy of Korea

MAKING THE MOST OF THE U.N. EXPERIENCE
Discussion participated in by many members of the group

The final period of the seminar included a discussion of how we are to apply the values we received, in the local churches and districts of Ohio. This discussion involved the means of getting the peace program organized and operative in the local church. It included a discussion of functions of the district peace secretaries. The Area leadership had previously prepared for a series of workshops in all of the districts of the Area for the coming year, based upon the United Nations and expressions of those who attended. Those who were present are expected to participate as speakers and resource leaders in the seminars. Programs related to the vital interests of the United Nations and the church will be undertaken.

Area seminars, including top leadership, are being requested from other sections of the church and must be scheduled long in advance of actual dates.

NEW SCHOOL OF INTERNATIONAL SERVICE

Chicago, Illinois
December 15, 1955

Dr. Hurst Anderson, President of American University, Washington, D. C., paid a friendly visit to our office this morning. We rejoice in the new program projected for a School of International Service, designed as a Methodist and Protestant enterprise for education in international affairs and training in foreign service. It will attempt to do for Methodists and Protestants generally, what Georgetown University School of Foreign Affairs has done in the field of foreign service. Its educational service will not be confined to the specific task of foreign service, but also will include training in industrial activities, service in areas of international culture, the training of missionaries, social workers, etc.

Methodists are undoubtedly gratified as they read of the generous endowment funds contributed by the Ford Foundation and recently announced through the newspapers of the nation, American University having been granted an endowment of over $297,000, which will be used for the School of International Service.

By an action of the Board of Education, proposals in connection with a School of International Service are being presented to the Council on World Service and Finance.

Dr. Anderson also informed us that Westminster Theological Seminary is moving to the Washington campus. He very cordially discussed with me possibilities of service by the school when seminar groups are in Washington.

CFB, Jr.

IOWA-DES MOINES PEACE BOARD

Recently a series of meetings was promoted by the Iowa-Des Moines conference peace board. One in Atlantic, Iowa, which included more men than women, was promoted by district peace secretary Rev. Leonard Tinker of Atlantic, by Dr. William Overhulser, Superintendent of the Council Bluffs District, and by Mr. Paul Williams, district lay leader.

The program started at 6:30 with a potluck supper. There was food in abundance and everyone was in a good mood to move to an adjoining room where chairs were arranged in concentric circles and a blackboard was prominent in front. There were about 40 laymen and ministers and 20 laywomen. The district peace secretary opened the meeting, the district lay leader chaired it, and the district superintendent closed it.

The two-hour program included a talk on disarmament, a panel discussion by three ministers on how to strengthen the United Nations, and a discussion, led by Rev. Carl Soule, on peace work in the local church.

CHURCHMEN'S WASHINGTON SEMINAR

February 7-10, 1956

The Churchmen's Washington Seminar, sponsored by the National Council of Churches, brings together for three and one-half days persons from many denominations. Conferences are held with national leaders; Congress is observed in session. The Board of World Peace is receiving applications from interested persons. Application fee of $10.00 (including four meals) should accompany application.

OHIO AND CENTRAL KANSAS WORKSHOPS

From November 8 to 11 the Ohio Conference had a series of workshops jointly sponsored by the Boards of World Peace, Temperance, and Social and Economic Relations, with the help of the Interboard Council and the district superintendents. Meetings were held at Findlay, Dayton, Portsmouth, and Lancaster, with combined attendance of approximately 500. Carl Soule represented the Board of World Peace and led a group on prospects for a Christian world order.

From November 14 to 18 the Central Kansas Conference Boards of Peace, Temperance, and Social and Economic Relations, in cooperation with the WSCS, held a series of six meetings at Wichita, Great Bend, Garden City, Colby, Beloit, and Salina. More than 750 persons attended the series which was the first cooperative endeavor of this type in Central Kansas. Herman Will represented the Board of World Peace and led the discussions in this field.

GENESEE CONFERENCE U.N. SEMINAR

The third Annual United Nations Seminar of the Genesee Conference began the evening of Monday, November 28th, and was concluded in the afternoon of December 1st. Reverend Alexander Stewart, Jr., Pastor at Gowanda, New York, and Chairman of the Genesee Conference Board of World Peace, did a splendid job of promotion and recruitment and served as chairman of the group in New York. In addition to United Nations personnel, guest speakers included Mr. Norman Thomas, well-known leader in social and international thought, and Mrs. Alexander Stewart, Sr., mother of the chairman of the Seminar, who is the Legislative Secretary of the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom.

NEW U.N. RESOURCES

How to Find Out About the United Nations. A wide array of information concerning United Nations materials including documents, press, film, radio materials, etc. are included in this illustrated and well written booklet. It sells for 15¢.

Our Rights as Human Beings. The fourth revision of a U.N. discussion guide released in the latter part of 1955. It is an excellently prepared official U.N. publication which sells in the United States for 35¢ per copy.

These may be secured from the Dept. of Public Information, United Nations, New York 17, N.Y., or the Board of World Peace, 740 Rush St., Chicago.